

Loh Kar Hoe¹

Muhammad Ali Syed Hussein²

Chong Ving Ching^{1,3}

Sasekumar A.³

¹*Institute of Ocean & Earth
Sciences, University of Malaya,
50603 Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia*

²*Borneo Marine Research Institute,
Universiti Malaysia Sabah, 88400
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Malaysia*

³*Institute of Biological Sciences,
Faculty of Science, 50603 Kuala
Lumpur, Malaysia*

A14. Diversity of Malaysian moray eels (Anguilliformes: Muraenidae)

Moray eels (Muraenidae) belong to a diverse family of marine eels found around the world, with about 16 genera and over 200 species. The past studies of muraenid fauna in Malaysia are sparse, with several identified species of suspect. The literature provides five valid genera with 15 species in Malaysia. The present study revised the scientific names of the moray eels so far recorded from Malaysia with corrections made to some species that were wrongly identified. From our new collections, we have recorded four genera and 16 species of moray eels, including a new record, *Gymnothorax margaritophorus*, in Malaysia. This report updates the present record of Malaysia's marine eel fauna to a total of six genera including 31 species of moray eels. An identification key of moray eels species in Malaysia waters is provided.